



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ALLY *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/741,735

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: **Apparatus and Method for Drying  
Solutions Containing  
Macromolecules**

Confirmation No.: 5901

Art Unit: 3749

Examiner: Lu, Jiping

Atty. Docket: 0942.4060002/LEA/MJM

**Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 21 2004

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended one month from March 16, 2004 to April 16, 2004 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$110.00 for a one month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Date: April 16, 2004

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